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East Charlton Heights is adjoining Charlton Heights, the most progressive village near Washington, where the judgment of nearly 1,000 people has made them buy lots, and many of them have built handsome houses, and many more are building this spring. Schools, Churches, Stores, Springs of Mineral and Pure Water.

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BOYS WILL STILL BE BOYS.

EVEN IF THEY ARE TRAINING TO RUN UNCLE SAM'S BIG WAR SHIPS.

How the Annapolis Naval Cadets Manage to Snatch a Little Dangerous Fun Despite Rigid Rules and Exhaustive Studies—Life at the Academy.

ANNAPOLIS, May 16.—The life led by the naval cadets at Annapolis is a hard one, but it is not all study, drill, and discipline. The cadets are boys—strong, healthy, high-spirited boys—and consequently they are bound to have a little fun and frolic, at no matter what expense. The embryo cadet must be a man correct in every physical requirement before he can even take the examination, which, if passed, will allow him to enter within the charmed walls. In addition, he must be mentally what the world calls "bright," or he will find an insuperable obstacle at the very outset of his career when he comes face to face with the entrance examinations, which are always a severe test of a man's knowledge. Since he must, therefore, possess exceptional mental and physical attainments, it is only natural to suppose that in him we shall find fully developed the average boy's love for fun and excitement; and it is so. We find it embodied in him from his "pleb" year, when he at first hardly knows how to take things he sees around him, through the third and second years, until he arrives at the full dignity of the first-classman. With his extended privileges here he finds new opportunities for his exercise, and on the two years' cruise following graduation day he shows the people of other nations what healthy American boys are made of. Returning as an officer, a part of his love of fun clings to him, and a part of it will probably go down with him to his grave.

As "candidates" before entering, studying under the various tutors in the town, they band together and become a menace to themselves to a townspeople to whom absolute quiet is the greatest solace. In their rooms in Annapolis they come together and play poker with a fury which to the observant spectator would immediately signify that there was no such festive amusement in the place of their future abode. Those who fail to pass, but obtain reappointments, only retire for the time being from the Academy, and usually undertake to instruct those to whom the life will be all new in some of the trials which they will have to go through later on. This instruction the "green" men gratefully accept, and after getting the taste of soap out of their mouths, and wringing their clothes dry from an unexpected drenching, they settle down with remarkable composure to the fate which awaits them, and which frequently appears worse in the anticipation than in the reality.

During this period of candidacy let them but enter the Academy grounds on an "off-day," Wednesday or Saturday, and they will be immediately spotted by the cadets, who can tell a candidate as far as they can see one, and it is not unfrequently that the latter will be halted, told to salute, button up his coat, turn out his toes, or any other thing that may enter the young despot's head at the moment.

Once within the sacred precincts after having passed his examination, the cadet finds himself known as a "pleb," and here his bed is by no

means one of roses. If, either because of the fact that during his period of candidacy he has incurred the displeasure of any then existing cadet, or the fact that after entering his general demeanor is not perfectly satisfactory to every one of the two or three hundred above him, he is very likely to be made the subject of an amount of hazing more or less severe as he is unpopular.

From 9:30 until 10 o'clock at night the men are allowed the freedom of each other's rooms, and a company of higher classmen, assembling in the room of one of their number, will send for one or more plebs, in the manner that the Roman emperors ordered up gladiators to while away the time. When he comes the pleb is made to sing, dance, or jump around for the amusement of the crowd. He is told to climb to the top of the wardrobe, and from that lofty perch take a casual view of his persecutors. He is then informed that there is no time to come down the way he went up, but must in this case fly. He sets up a tremendous flapping of arms, and usually alights with about the grace that we read of in "Darius Green and His Flying Machine." If the entertainment is held in the pleb's own room they will tie his bed-clothes to his cot in lieu of ropes, and with the information that he is engaged in an artillery drill start him on a mad and destructive career around the room. In the old days he was compelled to eat soap and engage in other forms of amusement hardly to the credit of the reputation of fun-loving men, but now the rules against hazing are enforced more strictly, and the man engaging to such an extent therein is forced to leave.

The plebs, on the other hand, have their opportunities to get even with the third-classmen. Here again we find evidence of the caste which predominates so largely in the life of the cadet. The pleb may have what is called a "spoon" in one of the higher classes, and, armed with his sanction, half a dozen rush into a man's room, upset his bed, overturn his table, wardrobe, and chairs, with the result that the occupant of the room will be on the verge of distraction by the time the wreck is cleared away.

Among each other, with less regard to caste, there is the favorite trick of so doctoring a man's bed as to cause him discomfort of a degree long to be remembered. As a preliminary the bed is fixed so as to collapse when called upon to bear the weight of its occupant. That done, on top of the hair mattress several quarts of water are poured and the covers replaced. This is done during the off period of a half hour before 10 o'clock. The occupant meanwhile has been detained in the room of another until the last moment before 10, when all men must be in bed and lights out. As the 10 o'clock bugle sounds the owner rushes to his room, turns out his light, and jumps into bed to await the inspection. The result is easy to imagine, and in that rather uncomfortable condition the victim must lie until the inspection has been made, and even then he cannot light his gas, but must grope around in the dark until he has fixed his affairs so that life, if not pleasant for the night, is at least endurable.

These are only a few of the many means to which fun-loving cadets resort in order to harass one another, but enough has been given to indicate something of the spirit permeating them as a body.

The restrictions with regard to leaving the yard to visit the town are many and severe. To outfit those above them in this matter the inventive faculties of the most ingenious are sorely taxed. Climbing a wall ten feet in height, the top of which is covered with broken glass, at a spot free from the presence of the guards, is a favorite method, and the one generally practiced. On the Saturday nights on which hops are given some of those who do not dance make use of the cabs in order to escape the vigilance of the guards. Pressed far back in the corner of one of these vehicles, hidden from the view of any one looking into it from the outside, they enter or leave the grounds in comparative safety.

The use of whisky and tobacco is prohibited

with very severe penalties. The former the cadets seldom if ever attempt to carry into their rooms externally, but tobacco frequently finds a hiding place within easy reach, and there are many infractions of this rule. The occupants of a room find it exceedingly difficult to conceal any of the latter in a place free from the danger of detection. Many expedients are tried. There are very few books allowed in the quarters, but in one case about two years since a cadet made a very novel use of a large Bible sent to him from home. By the aid of a sharp knife from its middle a square cavity was hollowed out large enough to contain a supply of both chewing and smoking tobacco. The consolation derived from the book, and the frequency with which reference was afterward made thereto, would probably have satisfied the most devout of grandmothers.

For communication with one another during study hours, at night or during the day, the cadets formerly made use of a code of signals similar to the Morse alphabet, a conductor for which was found in the steampipes used in heating the barracks. This, however, was soon detected and stopped.

Occasionally a few of them will openly rebel against authority by such acts as rolling cannon balls and grapeshot along the corridors, or by firing fire-crackers in the building. In cases of this kind inspections are immediately taken, and if the offender is caught severe punishment is awarded him. If such outbreaks occur after "taps" at night the whole number of students are liable to receive orders to turn out immediately for formation, where they are kept until the guilty party owns up, or until the authorities consider a lesson of sufficient severity has been administered.

When the cadets fall out among themselves, as is natural they occasionally should, the resort is usually to a test of superiority with bare fists. Seconds are chosen, and if it is an off night all in the secret repair to the rear of the gas works, where, with pickets posted to keep a lookout for the guards, and a ring of men around them, the disputants hammer each other until their honor has been mutually vindicated. In the summer months, when discipline is comparatively lax, such encounters are of frequent occurrence, and several such may occur in one evening.

Other violations than those mentioned may and do occur, but they are none of them calculated in the least to overthrow or cast discredit upon the system of authority governing the institution. The entire course of training in the Academy tends to the formation of men of the highest order of physical and intellectual excellence, and a more manly, straightforward set of boys than the naval cadets it would be hard to find.

O. I. Y.

A FEW FASHION NOTES.

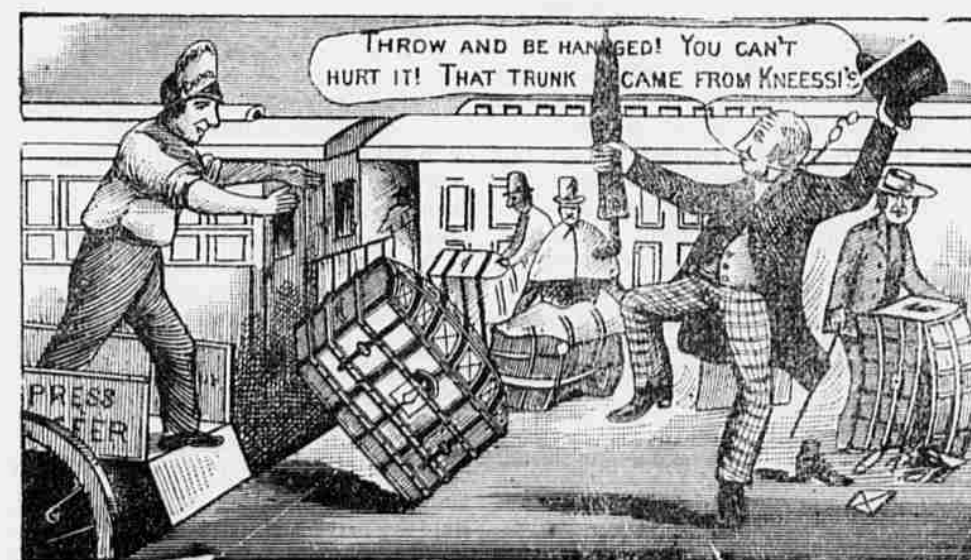
Many house dresses have a bow of ribbon pinned under the ear as a finish.

White shoes are to be worn this summer in patent leather, box cloth, and oze kid and goat. Collars are either cut very high or very low—there is no medium. Save with tailor suits linen collars are not worn.

Braid and passementeries are innumerable, but with one common factor, metallic mixture of steel, gilt or silver. Unless of good plate this kind of trimming tarnishes very often.

There are special silk fabrics for races, showing local scenes of pink, yellow, crimson, red, and green on pale-cream grounds; other smart patterns are bias plaids, with the blocks three inches in diameter.

Red and black Spanish toilets again appear among stylish gowns for watering-place wear. Red crepe de chine is made up with black Chantilly or point d'esprit, and vivid gowns of Roman red crepe and India silk in combination are veiled with real black Spanish nets, or those of Chantilly with deep Vandyke points.



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